

Appl. No. 09/931,391
Amdt. dated June 20, 2005
Reply to Office Action of January 18, 2005

PATENT

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-17 were pending and were rejected under 35 USC§102(e) as anticipated by Evans et al. ('046). The undersigned respectfully traverses the rejections.

Amendments have been made to better describe the claimed invention. These amendments are discussed below. Distinctions of the independent claims 1 and 7 over Evans et al. can be seen in the following representative claim language of claim 1:

where the programming environment also comprises a decoration object class and a theme object class,

wherein instances of the shared delegation object class comprise objects configured to receive user input, and objects configured to refer to instances of decoration objects for rendering,

wherein the instances of decoration objects comprise objects configured to render the plurality of areas,

wherein instances of theme objects are configured to create the instances of decoration objects,

As can be seen in the present patent disclosure, Fig. 16, and text in [0095]-[0108] describe embodiments as being represented in an object-oriented programming schema. More specifically abstract base classes: Abstract Theme, AbstractWidget, and Abstract Decoration are illustrated. These abstract base classes are illustrated having names, data members, and functions. As described in [0104] AbstractTheme creates specific instances of Concrete Decorations. Further, Decoration objects are used to render user interface objects and are shown as "initialized()" by the user interface components, i.e. widgets.

Advantages of this object-oriented approach include that each instance of ConcreteDecoration referred to by a ConcreteWidget is responsible for rendering a specific portion of the user interface.

In contrast, Evans et al. does not disclose such an object-oriented schema, but describes a schema dependent upon re-direction and a theme manager. At best, Evans et al.

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appears to disclose a system where functional API calls are intercepted by a fusion layer 214, and the functional API calls are redirected via 212 to a theme manager 216. Next, Theme manager redirects the API calls to the specific drawing APIs 218 desired.

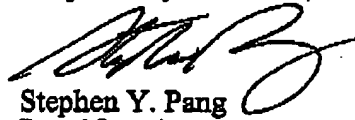
Because Evans et al. does not disclose the recited limitations above, and for other reasons, claims 1 and 7 are asserted to be allowable. Claims 2-6 and 12-17 dependent upon claim 1 and claims 8-11 dependent on claim 7 are also asserted to be allowable for substantially the same respective reasons, and more particularly for the specific limitations they recite.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicants believe all claims now pending in this Application are in condition for allowance. The issuance of a formal Notice of Allowance at an early date is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 650-326-2400.

Respectfully submitted,


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